

Described below are the methods which are used to assure that the medical and remedial care and services provided under the program are of high quality.

- (1) In the context of inpatient and outpatient hospital services and physicians' services, provisions are made for specialists' services and consultation.
- (2) Provision for transportation is made so that the required special medical services which are not available in communities where recipients reside may be obtained elsewhere.
- (3) There is an arrangement under which the agency's medical consultant may call on a member of the local medical association for consultation on cases involving questions of over-utilization or appropriateness of services recommended or provided.
- (4) NF standards are rigidly enforced jointly with the Department of Health. Both agencies provide consultation to such facilities to correct identified deficiencies or upgrade nursing care. A general surveillance is maintained by this agency to assure that such facilities continuously meet the required standards.
- (5) Prospective reviews and prior authorization requirements are maintained so that determination may be made by this agency as to the appropriateness of recommended medical services.
- (6) Periodic visits are made by the agency's representative to participating medical facilities to confer with the medical staff, review medical records and generally observe the services being provided recipients.
- (7) Planning and development of statewide EPSDT services are done jointly with the physician-administrators of Title V programs and in consultation with the local pediatric society.
- (8) Periodic on-site medical reviews are conducted by the agency's multi-disciplinary team at participating NF's to determine the adequacy of services and to evaluate the level of care required by recipients. Physician's patient certifications are examined and utilization review activities are monitored.

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- (9) Medical and remedial care and services which are unproven or of experimental nature are excluded under the program. Medicare's definition and guidelines are utilized in determining which procedures are experimental or unproven.
- (10) Described below are the methods used to implement the nursing home reform provisions of OBRA '87.
 - A. PASARR Level I was provided on an interim basis by HCAD consultants. Effective September 1, 1989, LTC facilities assumed responsibility for Level I;
 - B. By interagency agreement, PASARR Level II determinations are performed by Mental Health Division and Developmental Disabilities Division of the Department of Health:

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